

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 12-19, 23 and 26-27 are pending.

Claim 1 is amended.

Amended Claim 1

Claim 1 is amended to delete the term "convention" in line 8 and requiring that the first flocculant be a polymer of at least 1,000,000.

Support for the amendments in claim 1 may be found on page 6, line 16-18 and page 7, lines 11-12.

No new matter is added.

Applicants retain the right to file a continuation to recover the deleted matter amended from the claims.

Double Patenting Rejections

Claims 1-11, 18 and 19 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-3 and 5-14 of copending 10/591,776 (Case 22354).

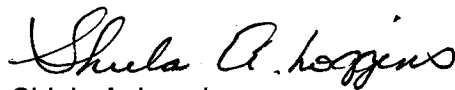
Applicants submit a terminal disclaimer obviating the above double patenting rejection.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 3, 12-19, 23 and 26-27 is respectfully solicited in light of the amendments *supra*.

Since there are no other grounds of objection or rejection, passage of this application to issue with claims 1, 3, 12-19, 23 and 26-27 is earnestly solicited.

Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. In the event that minor amendments will further prosecution, Applicants request that the examiner contact the undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,



Shiela A. Loggins
Agent for Applicants
Reg. No. 56,221

Ciba Specialty Chemicals Corporation
Patent Department
540 White Plains Road
P.O. Box 2005
Tarrytown, NY 10591-9005
(914) 785-2768
(Fax) 914 785-7102
SAL122356SA.doc